



AMERICAN LEGION CHAPALA POST #7



Happy
New Year
2017

January 2017

Roll
Call

DR. GUILLERMO ARECHIGA ORNELAS

PAIN MANAGEMENT & PALIATIVE CARE



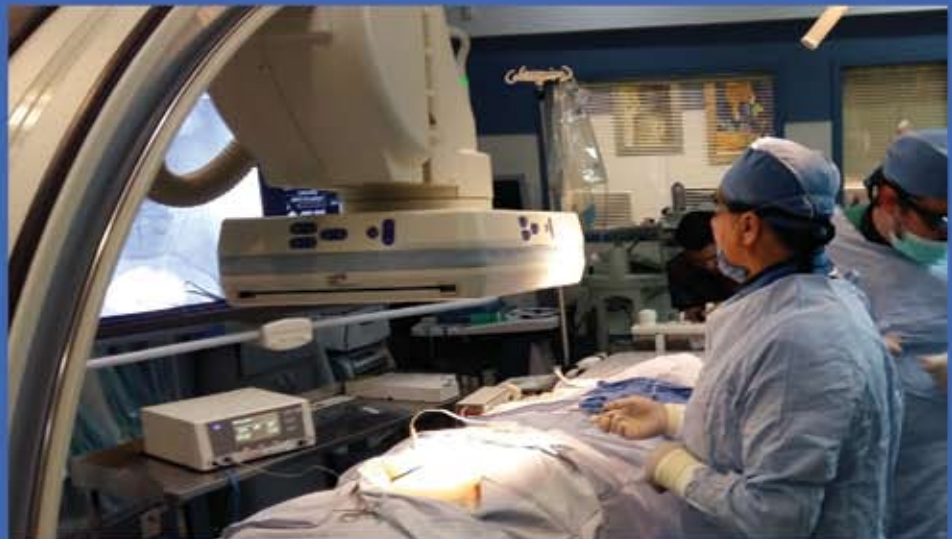
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AMERICAN LEGION CHAPALA POST #7



Commander's Corner

Friends and Legionnaires,

I hope you all had a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.



Congratulations to Army for finally beating Navy. The event at the Legion was great. Thank you Cindy Thompson for making it a fun event.

The Toys for Tots run was a great success again this year, the children had a blast. Thank you Los Güeros Motorcycle Club, Departamento de Bomberos de Chapala, Policía de Tránsito and all the volunteers.

We have a new professional Post website *chapalalegion-post7.com*. It is amazing; you all should check it out and register to get all the updates. Thank you to our web master Tyler Buhl.

We received the Sons of the American Legion charter and we are now official. The Adjutant is working on getting official 2017 membership cards.

The men that stand Duty Officer at the Legion deserve our respect and appreciation. As you know this is a volunteer position and very important as they are the face of the Legion to our visitors, guests and customers.. Their hours are 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. every weekday. They are knowledgeable about the Post and Lakeside and are prepared to answer questions and guide you to where you can find the help you need.

A very important part of their job is signing up new members and renewals for each group of our organization — Legion, Auxiliary, Sons of the American Legion, and our Social members. How they do this job, affects all aspects of our membership — meeting our goals and keeping our records organized. These Duty Officers take a lot of pressure from the Adjutant's job.

Next time you see them diligently standing their watch, give them your personal "thank you" for their service to you and American Legion Post #7.

Tim Stern
Commander



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Cover Photo: Dan Williams

MILITARY HISTORY

by Dan Williams

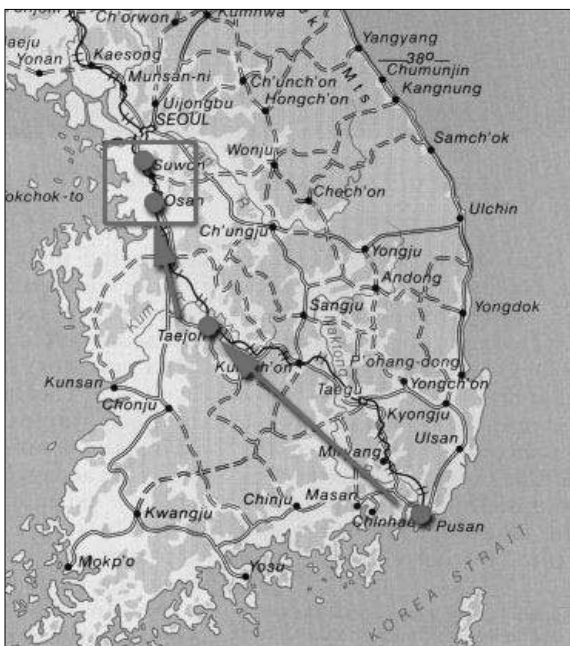
(The information in this article was taken from Internet sources and by **Dan Williams**)

Korean War (1950–53)

Unlike WW II and Vietnam, the Korean War did not get much media attention in the U.S. The most famous representation of the war in popular culture is the television series “M*A*S*H,” which was set in a field hospital in South Korea.

The history of South Korea formally begins with its establishment on August 17, 1948. In the aftermath of the Japanese occupation of Korea, which ended with Japan’s defeat in WW II in 1945. Korea was divided along the 38th parallel north in accordance with a United Nations arrangement, to be administered by the Soviet Union in the north and the U.S. in the south.

The Korean War was a conflict between the U.S. and its United Nations allies and the communist powers under the influence of the Soviet Union (also a UN member nation) and the People’s Republic of China. The principal combatants were North and South Korea. Principal allies of South Korea included the U.S., Canada, Australia, and the United Kingdom, although many other nations sent troops under the guidance of the United Nations. Allies of North Korea included the People’s Republic of China, which supplied military forces, and the Soviet Union, which supplied combat advisors and aircraft pilots, as well as arms, for the Chinese and North Korean troops.



On June 25, 1950, North Korea invaded South Korea, starting the Korean War. The Battle of Osan was the first engagement between U.S. and North Korean forces during the Korean War, on July 5, 1950. Task Force Smith, a U.S. task force of 400 infantry supported by an artillery battery, was moved to Osan, south of the South Korean capital Seoul, and ordered to fight as a rear guard to delay advancing North Korean forces while additional U.S. troops arrived in the country to form a stronger defensive line to the south. The task force lacked both anti-tank guns and effective infantry anti-tank weapons, having been equipped with obsolete 2.36-in. rocket launchers and a few 57 mm recoilless rifles.

Aside from a limited number of HEAT shells for the unit’s 105-mm howitzers, crew-served weapons capable of defeating the T-34 Soviet tank had not been distributed to U.S. Army forces in Korea. A North Korean tank column equipped with ex-Soviet T-34/85 tanks overran the task force in the first encounter and continued its advance south. After the North Korean tank column had breached U.S. lines, the Task Force opened fire on a force of some 5,000 North Korean infantry approaching its position, temporarily holding up the North Korean advance. North Korean troops eventually flanked and overwhelmed American positions and the remnants of the Task Force retreated in disorder.

It was felt that the American forces had stayed too long in this position, allowing North Korean troops to envelop the force and cause heavy casualties as it retreated. These weaknesses would play out with other U.S. units for the next month as North Korean troops pushed them further back. Though the force was badly defeated Task Force Smith accomplished its mission of delaying North Korean forces from advancing for several hours. During the battle, the 24th Infantry Division’s 34th Infantry Regiment was able to set up in Pyeongtaek, 15 mi to the south. It would be similarly defeated in the Battle of Pyongtaek.

Over the next month, the 24th Infantry Division would fight in numerous engagements to delay North Korean forces with similar results. Within a week, the 24th Infantry Division had been pushed back to Taejon where it was again defeated in the Battle of Taejon. The North Koreans, overwhelming U.S. forces time and again, were able to push the Eighth Army all the way back to Pusan, despite lingering concerns from superiors, MacArthur’s soldiers and marines made a successful landing at Inchon, deep behind North Korean lines. Launched with naval and close-air support, the landing outflanked the North Koreans, recaptured Seoul and forced them to retreat northward in disarray. Visiting the battlefield on September 17, MacArthur surveyed six T-34 tanks that had been knocked out by Marines, ignoring sniper fire around him, except to note that the North Korean

(Continued on Page 4)



Legion Auxiliary Unit #7

Auxiliary President's Message



Happy New Year to everyone,

It is time once again for the American Legion Auxiliary of Chapala to prepare our annual election slate, and I would like to encourage every member to sign up for a position. You can be the new member of the Executive Board that brings in that one new idea to better the Auxiliary, increase membership and/or participation of other members.

Currently, the Auxiliary helps support the Tepehua Sewing Program that teaches indigent ladies how to sew in order to help support their families. Samples of their work can be seen and purchased at the "First Saturday Bazaar" each month at the Legion.

The Auxiliary also sends donations on a regular basis to "Pets for Vets", a group that rescues appropriate dogs and trains them to be service dogs for disabled vets. This includes veterans with PTSD, several of whom have stated that their dog saved their lives.

All of this requires members and a Board of Directors to work together to earn the funds to donate.

The positions to be filled are as follows:

- President
- 1st Vice President
- 2nd Vice President
- Treasurer
- Historian
- Chaplain
- Sergeant at Arms
- Executive Committee Woman
- 2 Committee Women

The form to sign up as a candidate is posted on the Auxiliary bulletin board in the library of the Legion.

Please come to your meetings the 1st Tuesday of each month at 11 a.m., get to know your fellow members and see what office you would fit into. Being an officer is not time consuming and is very rewarding.

Anita Wikum
President



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To Renew Your Membership

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To Join the American Legion

online go to

www.legion.org/join

(Continued from Page 2: Military History)

marksmen were poorly trained.

On September 11, Truman issued orders for an advance beyond the 38th parallel into North Korea. MacArthur now planned another amphibious assault, on Wonsan on the east coast, but it fell to South Korean troops before the 1st Marine Division could reach it by sea.

A month later, things had changed. The enemy was engaged by the UN forces at the Battle of Unsan in late October, which demonstrated the presence of Chinese soldiers in Korea and rendered significant losses to the American and other UN troops. Nevertheless, General Willoughby downplayed the evidence about Chinese intervention in the war. He estimated that up to 71,000 Chinese soldiers were in the country, while the true number was closer to 300,000. He was not alone in this miscalculation.

On November 24, the Central Intelligence Agency reported to Truman that while there could be as many as 200,000 Chinese troops in Korea. There was no evidence that the Chinese Communists planned major offensive operations. The next day, November 25, 1950, Walker's Eighth Army was attacked by the Chinese Army and soon the UN forces were in retreat. MacArthur provided the Chief of Staff, General J. Lawton Collins, with a series of nine successive withdrawal lines.

On December 23, Walker was killed when his jeep collided with a truck, and was replaced by Lieutenant General Matthew B. Ridgway, whom MacArthur had selected in case of such an eventuality. Ridgway noted that MacArthur's prestige, which had gained an extraordinary luster after Inchon, was badly tarnished. His credibility suffered in the unforeseen outcome of the November offensive.

In April 1951, the Joint Chiefs of Staff drafted orders for MacArthur authorizing nuclear attacks on Manchuria and the Shantung Peninsula if the Chinese launched airstrikes originating from there against his forces. The next day Truman met with the chairman of the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission, Gordon Dean, and arranged for the transfer of nine Mark 4 nuclear bombs to military control. Dean was apprehensive about delegating the decision on how they should be used to MacArthur, who lacked expert technical knowledge of the weapons and their effects.

The Joint Chiefs were not entirely comfortable about giving them to MacArthur either, for fear that he might prematurely carry out his orders. Instead, they decided that the nuclear strike force would report to the Strategic Air Command. Under General Ridgway's command, the Eighth Army pressed north again in January. He inflicted heavy casualties on the

Chinese, recaptured Seoul in March 1951, and pushed on to the 38th Parallel. With the improved military situation, Truman now saw the opportunity to offer a negotiated peace but on March 24, MacArthur called upon China to admit that it had been defeated, simultaneously challenging both the Chinese and his own superiors. Truman's proposed announcement was shelved.

General MacArthur sent a letter to the Republican leader in the House of Representatives which was read aloud on the floor of the House critical of Truman's Europe-first policy and limited-war strategy. MacArthur's comments in this letter along with other comments made to Tokyo and the embassies of Spain and Portugal stated that he would succeed in expanding the Korean War into a full-scale conflict with the Chinese Communists. Truman ordered MacArthur's relief by General Ridgway, and the order went out on April 10 with Bradley's signature.



Huge Jellyfish Filmed Off Puerto Vallarta

Scuba divers in the waters off Puerto Vallarta came across a rare sight on a recent dive: a huge white jellyfish measuring about one meter in bell height.

Scuba diver and photographer Christian Hauser captured the animal on video near Majahuitas Bay. According to Hauser, this type of jellyfish is rarely seen in that bay.

Jellyfish have been known to be from one millimeter in bell height to more than two meters, with mouth parts and tentacles extending beyond those dimensions.



Hauser Photography
Christian Hernández Hauser



AMERICAN LEGION POST #7



Auxiliary Officers 2016 – 2017

President – Anita Wikum

1st Vice – Sharon Munns

2nd Vice – Peggy Graves

Secretary – Position Open

Treasurer: Sharon Ottzman

Historian – Cindy Thompson

Chaplain - Gina Pumiglia

Executive Committee:

Cindy Thompson,
Sharon Munns



AMERICAN LEGION CHAPALA POST #7



2016-2017 Post #7 Officers

Commander Tim Stern

1st Vice Commander William Wagoner

2nd Vice Commander Richard Thompson

Adjutant Vince Britton

Finance Officer Roy Lahti

Service Officer Tom Stordahl

Judge Advocate Vince Britton

Sgt. at Arms Zane Pumiglia

Chaplain Tom Schmidt

Members at Large:

Dan Williams, Gene Kent, Phil Brewer, Lee Pinder,
Tom Stordahl, Gary Lemons

Physical Address: #114 Morelos, Chapala, Jalisco

Mailing Address: #31 APDO Chapala, Jalisco 45900

Phone (376) 765-2259

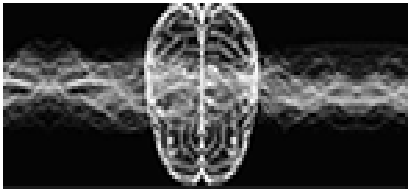
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McDonald's Employee Helped Elderly Disabled Man With His Food





Neuro Notes

by Amelia Stevens M.D.

Who Do You Think You Are?

“My sister? You think you’re my sister? . . . If you think you’re my sister, there’s something wrong with your head.” (*The Echo Maker*, a novel by Richard Powers, winner of the National Book Award, 2006). The character quoted above has Capgras syndrome, named after the French physician who first identified it, Joseph Maria Capgras, in 1923. People with this unusual condition misidentify relatives, friends, pets, at times places, believing that they have been replaced by doubles. No amount of reasoning or proof can convince them otherwise. At times people suffering from Capgras can become agitated to the point of violence, believing that the “doubles” may have harmed the people they think have been replaced.

Capgras syndrome does not appear in the DSM 5 as a diagnostic entity in its own right, but is a well-known, though uncommon, symptom in other neuropsychiatric disorders. For example, the character in Powers’s novel has suffered severe head trauma in a car crash. He has recovered all motor and mental function except for the remaining Capgras delusion.

Patients with Alzheimer’s Disease or other dementias may exhibit Capgras syndrome. W. Somerset Maugham, the 20th century English author of *Of Human Bondage*, is said to have suffered from Capgras at around age 90. People with schizophrenia may also exhibit Capgras symptoms. There has been at least one reported case of a young man with epilepsy who only experiences the Capgras delusion immediately following a seizure.

Capgras sufferers have lost the connection between visual recognition and emotional recognition. They do not feel the usual emotional connection to the person, pet or place in front of them and appear to rationalize a duplication, an imposter.

Freudian explanations for the Capgras phenomenon prevailed for many decades. A theory was that affected persons presumably felt ambivalent about a loved one (or ones) and thus were able to overtly despise the “copycat(s)” but continue to have loving feelings for the “real” persons, even imbuing them with positive attributes that they never in fact possessed.

“You look a lot like her, you know? Maybe not quite as pretty. But damn close.” (*The Echo Maker*, Richard Pow-

ers). The prevailing explanation today is not psychoanalytic (Freudian) but neurological. It is now believed that through brain disease or injury, a crucial neural circuit is damaged which carries visual information to the amygdala. This is the brain structure which, among other functions, invests objects with emotional significance.



Interestingly, the auditory-emotional connection is not severed in this disorder. When Capgras victims hear, on the telephone for example, but do not see the person believed to be an imposter, recognition is immediate. In *The Echo Maker* the Capgras victim “soared at the sound of his sister, then shrieked at the sight of her.”

Capgras syndrome triggers the most fundamental questions of neuroscience: “How does the brain erect a mind and how does the mind erect everything else? Do we have free will? What is the self and where are the neurological correlates of consciousness?” (*The Echo Maker*, Richard Powers) There is no specific cure for Capgras syndrome. Trauma victims may or may not heal and return to their former selves. The delusion may or may not resolve in sufferers treated with medications.

The toll on loved ones regarded as imposters may be enormous. “He makes me think I’m invisible, a virus, a nothing . . . I’m just a simulation . . . He says I’m an imposter? He’s right. I’ve never done anything but go through the motions. . .” (*The Echo Maker*, Richard Powers) The good news is that Capgras syndrome is rare.

Amelia Stevens practiced psychiatry in western Massachusetts for many years. She may be contacted at paysons@aol.com for article references.



ADJUTANT NOTES

I hate to be negative and the barer of bad news, but I have to inform you of our plight.

We have made membership goal for the last three years, up from the 10 years before that, but as we go into 2017, we are short of our goal. We should be at 75% of our 147 member goal, as of mid-December, we are behind by 40 members.

We are doing very well with new members but **our renewals are lagging. Renewals are our life blood, without them we will never make our goals.**

It is not because there aren't enough eligible members in the area. **There are 83 past members on my list that haven't renewed yet.** I am very disappointed and feel as your Adjutant, I am letting you down. What are we doing wrong? We offer varied events, help local charities, have a wonderful restaurant, etc.

The present leaders ask for your assistance in helping us determine what more we can do to get our renewals back where they should be. Please, inform us, we need to know what more we can do to entice you to renew or join if you are not already a member?

Thank you,

Vince Britton
Adjutant

ENJOY THE BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP



Month of November

Cindy Thompson

Doing a wonderful job as our librarian, she is also involved in most events and projects, Becoming our go-to person for help, ideas, and get it done talents.



SERVICE OFFICER

Tom Stordahl
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Categories of Membership

American Legion \$40 USD a year
Auxiliary \$300 pesos a year
Sons of the American Legion \$200 pesos a year
Social Volunteer \$250 pesos a year

americanlegionchapala@gmail.com



The Hardest Work You Will Ever Do

By Mary Cook

The day my fiancé fell to his death, it started to snow, just like any November day, just like the bottom hadn't fallen out of my world when he freefell off the roof. His body, when I found it, was lightly covered with snow. It snowed almost every day for the next four months, while I sat on the couch and watched it pile up.



One morning, I shuffled downstairs and was startled to see a snowplow clearing my driveway and the bent back of a woman shoveling my walk. I dropped to my knees, crawled through the living room, and back upstairs so those good Samaritans would not see me. I was mortified. My first thought was, how would I ever repay them? I didn't have the strength to brush my hair let alone shovel someone's walk.

Before Jon's death, I took pride in the fact that I rarely asked for help or favors. I defined myself by my competence and independence. So who was I if I was no longer capable and busy? How could I respect myself if all I did was sit on the couch every day and watch the snow fall?

Learning how to receive the love and support that came my way wasn't easy. Friends cooked for me and I cried because I couldn't even help them set the table. "I'm not usually this lazy," I wailed. Finally, my friend Kathy sat down with me and said, "Mary, cooking for you is not a chore. I love you and I want to do it. It makes me feel good to be able to do something for you."

Over and over, I heard similar sentiments from the people who supported me during those dark days. One very wise man told me, "You are not doing nothing. Being fully open to your grief may be the hardest work you will ever do."

I am not the person I once was, but in many ways I have changed for the better. The fabric of my life is now woven with gratitude and humility. I have been surprised to learn that there is incredible freedom that comes from facing one's worst fear and walking away whole. I believe there is strength in surrender.

Mary Cook works on the ground crew for an air taxi company in Gustavus, Alaska, a community of 450 surrounded by Glacier Bay National Park. She also handles the mail, tends the town's only coffee house and serves as a hospice volunteer.



If you want to lose a few pounds, maintain a healthy lifestyle, and have fun doing it, then join us at Lighten Up.

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75 pesos

Contact James Wayne lightenupajijic@outlook.com
for questions or just come to a meeting.



**AMERICAN LEGION
CHAPALA POST #7**



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**All articles MUST BE submitted by the 13th day of the
month for inclusion in the next month's Roll Call. Send
to mariannecarlson@gmail.com.**

Lifestyles & Technology

Tiny Device Allows You To Track Your Vehicle Using Your Smartphone

Have you ever lost your car on a parking lot? It happens. You park and go shopping. When you get back, you don't have a clue where your car is. Then you start roaming around clicking on the panic button on your car keys so the alarm goes off. It can be frustrating, especially on a hot, sunny day.

A California-based startup company has created a tiny device that works with your smartphone. It's called TrackR and is a state-of-the-art tracking device the size of a quarter.

How Does it Work?

It's easy! Install the free TrackR app on your smartphone, connect the app to your device and you're ready to go! Simply attach TrackR to whatever you want to keep tabs on. The entire process of setting it up only takes five minutes or less. You can attach it to your keys, briefcase, wallet, your latest tech gadgets and anything else you don't want to lose. Then use the TrackR app to locate your missing item in seconds.

If you have the TrackR, you can just hide it under your car's floor mat, in the trunk or in the glove compartment. Somewhere it won't be found if your car gets stolen.

If you forget where you parked your car, whip out your smartphone and open the TrackR app. Tap on the "lost item" icon on the screen and the app will tell you the exact coordinates of the last known location of the TrackR.

TrackR costs \$29! It can be purchased on the Internet and has unlimited possibilities. The device is small and unobtrusive enough that you can attach it to your pet. Put it on their collar, and the issue of searching for them as they scamper off to nearby places will be over! Attach it to your keys and wallet, and never waste a minute rummaging the whole house for it. TrackR even comes with a double-sided adhesive so you can stick it to your laptop or under your bike seat.



How To Make Your Old, Slow Computer Like-New Again

It's incredibly frustrating when computers slow down or stop working for seemingly no reason at all. And even after all the diagnostics, upgrades, and money spent, the amount of time waiting for that spinning wheel or hourglass to disappear never seems to get any shorter. Your once new, lightning-fast, computer just keeps getting slower as each day passes.

There is a new device reportedly gives old, slow computers lightning fast speed again. It's called Xtra-PC and if you have an old, slow computer, it is exactly what you've been waiting for. Xtra-PC is a small thumb drive you simply plug into your computer's USB port and it instantly transforms your old computer to like new. It works with any computer (Mac or Windows) laptop, desktop, and netbooks made in 2004 or later.

How Does it Work?

It's so easy that it's like snapping your fingers and watching your old computer magically turn into the new, super-fast computer you want it to be. All you have to do is . . .

- Plug it in — Plug Xtra-PC into a USB port while your computer is turned off.
- Turn Your Computer On — Select 'Boot from USB' and you're good to go.
- In less than 15 minutes you'll be shocked at the difference in the performance of your computer.
- You only have to setup Xtra-PC once and you can even use it on multiple computers!

With Xtra-PC you'll be able to do the things you normally do . . .

- Surf the web
- Share on social media
- Write emails
- Watch videos
- Play games
- Safely shop online
- And more!



Xtra-PC costs \$24.99 and they offer a 30-Day money back guarantee.



REVIEW

Paradise Valley

By Dale Cramer

I grew up in “Amish country,” in Ashland County, Ohio, a county adjacent to Holmes County, home to the world’s largest population of Amish (more than a third of Holmes county residents speak Pennsylvania German or German at home). I now live in Mexico, and so, it was a double delight to read *Paradise Valley*, a story “inspired by actual events,” in which several Amish families—finding new state laws impossible to live under because they undermined their faith and way of life—set off in 1922 to begin a new life in Mexico.

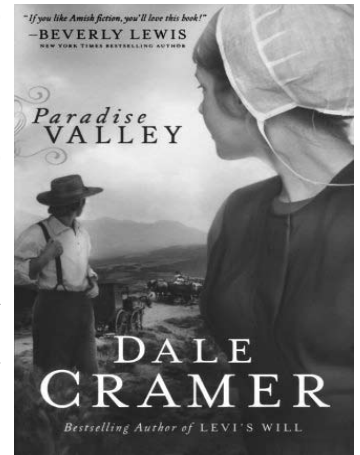
Paradise Valley begins with the arrests of five Amish fathers by local authorities “because we wouldn’t let our children go all the time to the consolidated school.” The judge lectures them that Ohio is a “state of laws,” and that “all children shall attend public schools five days a week from the age of six until eighteen,” to which Caleb Bender, a central character in *Paradise Valley*, replies: “We are here because we are fathers and we want to teach our children what is best. Who is better to decide what to teach a child than his father? The Bible tells us we are to bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord, so this is what we try to do. We teach them to love God and neighbor, to work hard, to care for the land, to provide for their family, to cooperate with their neighbors and to help widows and orphans. A little schooling is gut, but your consolidated school is full of the world. If we leave our children so much time in the school of the world, they learn other ways.”

A “cultural impasse,” as the judge notes. The fathers are sentenced to sixty days in the county jail unless they sign a statement agreeing to comply with the state laws. They refuse to sign.

Persecution had driven them to Ohio, now persecution would drive them from Ohio. Praying for Gott to show him another way, Caleb discovers on a bulletin board “a piece of paper bearing a bold one-word headline that caught his eye and would, he knew instantly, alter the course of his life. MEXICO. Underneath that, in smaller letters, were the words LAND FOR SALE.” In smaller print he read: “Paradise Valley—five thousand acres of prime, flat, fertile farmland nestled in the Sierra Madre of northeastern Mexico, only a hundred miles from the American border.”

The following Saturday several Amish families gathered

at Caleb’s farm to listen to his proposition, a new life in Mexico just south of the border. For the few families willing to follow Caleb to Mexico, “It would be hard. Pulling up stakes and leaving behind everything familiar, breaking ground in a new country without the help of neighbors, learning a new language, building a home, digging a well, feeding livestock, putting up barns and fences, all while planting crops to fend off next year’s hunger—it would be a massive undertaking.”



Caleb’s daughter Rachel, only two months from courting age, had already fallen in love with a young Amish neighbor, Jake, whose family was not going to go to Mexico. Rachel knew “without the slightest doubt, she wanted to spend her life with Jake,” and “now her father was going to haul the family to Mexico, a thousand miles away.” Charming Amish wisdom often surprises us with delightful ideas. Jake’s father tells his son how to choose a woman: “Why, it’s easy, son. Just remember when you choose a girlfriend, don’t choose so much the girl. Choose the friend.”

Once they arrive in Mexico, they begin settling in, and the days are long and hard...digging wells, learning to build houses and barns with adobe, planting corn and beans and potatoes, learning Spanish, discovering the generosity of the local Mexicans, and even creating a school, to serve Mexican children as well. Caleb, like all who have made the move to Mexico, sometimes ponders: “Have I been foolish? Was it only blind stubbornness that brought my family, and now our friends, to a place half a world away where bandits roam the roads, my sons plow among snakes, our babies crawl among scorpions, and no one speaks our language or shares our beliefs? What have I done?”

Quite a story! *Paradise Valley* is based on actual events. Five Amish fathers were jailed, there was a pamphlet advertising land in Paradise Valley, and a colony of Amish that began with one family grew to over a hundred people. “The author’s great-grandfather lived in Paradise Valley, and his father was born there.”



Firefighter Battles Wildfire

One day, a group of hard-working firefighters responded to a blaze in the woods of Kittitas County, Washington. While on a break at one of their command posts, they got a welcome surprise after a hard day's work: a friendly elk walked up to say hello!

The elk, named Buttons, is a fixture in the community, and many locals have seen her hanging around their ranches and farms. Buttons was abandoned by her family at a young age, so she started hanging around with

groups of cows and goats on a nearby hillside. She's been a part of the Kittitas County community ever since, and she's even become something of a local celebrity.



While most elk keep a safe distance from humans, Buttons has no hesitations about saying hi up close. Sometimes she even shows her affection in the form of a nuzzle or a sloppy kiss! Several elk herds have come through the area, but Buttons seems to prefer hanging out with her new friends — animals and humans alike.



The firefighters reported that during her visit to their post, this sweet elk made sure to make the rounds and give kisses to every officer there. With so much love to go around, it's safe to say that Buttons the elk will never be lonely again!

		5				8	4	9
1					5		6	
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3		2	8	5		7	1	
7		9						
5				9		6	3	
	2		3					

(Sudoku Solution on Page 31)



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DAY: Wednesday

- 1/11/2017
- 2/1/2017
- 3/1/2017
- 4/5/2017
- 5/17/2017
- 6/7/2017
- 7/12/2017
- 8/2/2017
- 9/13/2017
- 10/4/2017
- 11/8/2017
- 12/6/2017

GIVING UP WINE

I was walking down the street when I was accosted by a particularly dirty and shabby-looking homeless woman who asked me for a couple of dollars for dinner.

I took out my wallet, got out ten dollars and asked, 'If I give you this money, will you buy wine with it instead of dinner?'

'No, I had to stop drinking years ago', the homeless woman told me.

'Will you use it to go shopping instead of buying food?' I asked.

'No, I don't waste time shopping,' the homeless woman said. 'I must spend my time trying to stay alive.'

'Will you spend this on a beauty salon instead of food?' I asked.

'Are you NUTS!' replied the homeless woman. I haven't had my hair done in 20 years!'

'Well, I said, "I'm not going to give you the money. Instead, I'm going to take you to dinner with my husband and me tonight."

The homeless woman was shocked. "Won't your husband be furious with you for that. I'm dirty, and I probably smell pretty disgusting."


I said, "That's okay. It's important for him to see what a woman looks like after she gives up shopping, hair appointments, and wine."




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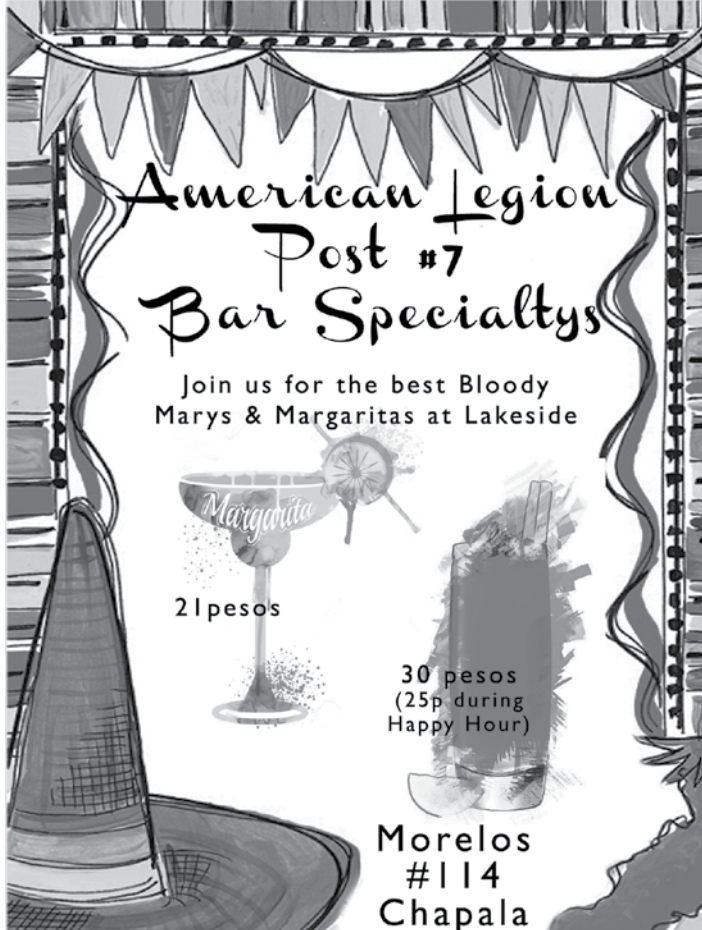
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Debating Biodiversity Where Not Much is Left

What better place to hold an international conference on protecting biological diversity than one which, according to environmentalists, has so far failed to do so.

COP 13, an international convention on biodiversity, was held in December in the Caribbean resort town of Cancún, Quintana Roo, where representatives from 196 countries attempted to hammer out commitments to prevent the degradation of ecosystems throughout the world in accordance with the 10-year plan laid out by the Aichi biodiversity targets.

Cancún is seen by some as a perfect example of the loss of biodiversity and the degradation of natural resources by unplanned urban and tourist development, along with the systematic violation of environmental laws.

According to economic development expert Christine McCoy, in its 46 years of existence Cancún has lost 77% of the rainforest, 68% of the mangrove swamps and 64% of the coastal dunes that were originally found in the area. Development in the region has had a negative impact on one of the city's major assets: its beaches. McCoy reported that the original extent of those beaches has decreased by 97% — from 309,000 square meters to 8,200.

This is not only the result of powerful hurricanes but of the construction of more than 100 hotels on the coastal dunes and the removal of mangroves.

The local Ecologist Group of the Mayab (Gema) has charged that the alteration of Cancún's original urban development program (PDU) has allowed the construction of "unthinkable" projects in areas of high environmental fragility. It says investors have pressured, negotiated with or corrupted municipal and federal authorities, resulting in the modification of the land use designations established by the PDU and the issuing of favorable environmental impact assessments.

The newspaper El Universal reported that on December 18 last year, while Environment Secretary Rafael Pacchiano was signing a biodiversity commitment in Paris, his agency granted the authorization for Spanish resort developer Grupo RIU to build a 15-story, 565-room hotel in the rainforest of Cancun's Punta Nizuc.

The Hotel Riviera Cancún is to be constructed in an area of influence of two natural protected areas in a zone considered vulnerable in a report commissioned by the Tourism Secretariat.

A controversy ensued after it was revealed that the National Protected Areas Commission, Conanp, had officially warned the Environment Secretariat (Semarnat) that Grupo RIU had denied the existence of a 21,000-square-meter mangrove swamp in the area proposed for construction. Conanp's assessment of the Grupo RIU project found it "unviable" but Semarnat authorized it nonetheless.

The Mexican Center of Environmental Law (Cemda) said the hotel represented a threat to the zone's coastal dune ecosystems, beaches and wetlands, and to the natural nesting grounds of sea turtles.

The National Tourism Promotion Fund (Fonatur) originally opposed the project but changed its position after then-chief Héctor Gómez Rabasa met with Grupo RIU representatives, who agreed to the expansion of a wastewater treatment plant and the creation of a seawater desalination facility.

Semarnat has since authorized a second Grupo RIU project for Isla Mujeres, while a 10-story, 1,789-room Hard Rock Hotel is waiting to be authorized in Cancún.

The latter includes the installation of an artificial "mega-pool" to be developed by Crystal Lagoons. "It's as absurd as attempting to build an artificial beach 23 meters away from a sea as beautiful as the Mexican Caribbean," said a representative from Gema.

Hand Gestures Hold Some Hidden Dangers

By Bodie Kellogg

Having lived in Mexico for 12% of my life, I find the Spanish language only a bit less bewildering than before I was a resident. I am now resigned to the fact that I will never become fluent and now I only hope for acceptable mediocrity.

While struggling with my linguistic inadequacies, I have honed my communication skills by using a combination of hand gestures and street slang, both of which convey a more complex meaning than my clumsy attempts at proper elucidation.

(Continued on Page 14)

(Continued from Page 13: Missives from Mexico)

As a *gringo*, my knowledge of hand gestures was limited to a middle finger thrust in the air or the OK formed with the thumb and index finger. It was only after a couple of years in my adopted country that I learned the OK in Mexico was not OK.

At first, I used the OK gesture liberally to signal agreement or acceptance because I lacked the verbal equivalent of articulate acknowledgment. Then one day my friend Juan explained that what I thought of as OK actually symbolized intense animosity by miming a normally concealed bodily orifice.



However, I did not allow my cultural insensitivity to deter my quest for Spanish language short cuts. Sometimes hand gestures and slang are simultaneous actions, each reinforcing the other.

One of the most common greetings between locals in Mexico is "*Que onda*," a casual "what's up" accompanied with a light palm slap and knuckle bump. This is a very safe acknowledgment, between men, and will make the average Anglo more personable to a local.

Another greeting, "*que pedo*," also means "what's up?" and is used by the working class people amongst themselves and is rarely heard by foreigners. However the literal translation of *que pedo* is "what fart?" This earthy salutation is for men only and can be a real ice-breaker with the local tradespeople i.e. plumbers, masons, carpenters, etc.

The Mexican culture goes further into flatulence humor with the expression, "*No hay pedo*," which means, "it's not important" or "it doesn't matter." The literal translation is "there is no fart." This slang phrase is usually accompanied with the classic Mexican shoulder shrug. This expression is not to be used with middle or upper-class nationals; they are above such vulgarities.

Another popular combination of gesture and slang is when someone is described as being lazy. The gesture is a cupped palm facing upwards as if you are holding something heavy, accompanied with "*Muy huevón*." This combination refers to lifting massive *huevos* (eggs), which is slang for testicles. The meaning behind this is that a



person's testicles are so huge and heavy he is unable to rise to any occasion. This reference is either jocular or very insulting, depending on how well you know the recipient; use with caution.

When bargaining with vendors you may see a bystander, or even the vendor, bend their arm and tap their elbow with the palm of the other hand. This implies a person is a cheap-skate or stingy and is accompanied with the term "*muy codo*." This bit of body language is completely safe and will elicit smiles or laughter from the locals when Anglos use it on each other.

There are a number of websites with Spanish slang that can be explored and then incorporated into daily conversations with the natives. The majority of Mexicans appreciate foreigners that attempt to communicate in Spanish and sometimes find the use of slang as a unique measure of a person's cultural depth.

The key is to know when and where to use your new-found vernacular; this is a very important point. Several years ago, my significant other and I were having a lovely dinner in a posh Mexico City restaurant when I extolled the quality of the experience with a colorful bit of street slang. This same phrase always garnered smiles, laughs and hardy guffaws from folks in *cantinas* and taco stands. However, in Mexico City, the most sophisticated state in Mexico, I was castigated with looks of disdain and revulsion that even a gargantuan tip could not defray.

So, choose both your patois and its beneficiary with caution, but by all means, go forth and have fun with slang.



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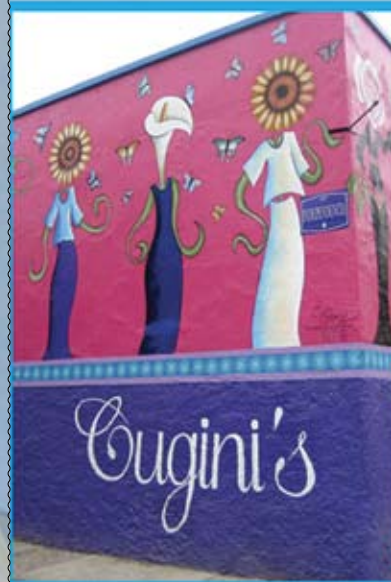
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Hola

My name is María Fernanda and I live in Chapala with my parents and my little sister.



I was born with two congenital heart defects: Atrial septal defect and ventricular septal defect. My parents didn't have the money to pay for my surgery at Hospital Civil, but someone told them about TAIYARI.

At TAIYARI the doctors did all the necessary tests, and when I was ready at age two, I had my surgery — November 22, 2013 — and my family didn't have to pay anything.

Today, I'm seven years old. I keep going to TAIYARI for my annual check-ups but everything is fine.



I like to play with my little sister and also love to do ballet. Last December I participated in a festival at the Auditorio in Aji-

jic. Thanks to TAIYARI I have a wonderful life to look forward to.



Taiyari is a non-profit organization dedicated to the specialty of pediatric cardiology, saving the lives of children with heart disease disorders. Gift of Life, Arizona supported 24 Taiyari patients from August 23, 2003 until December 2010, however, now that Taiyari is a legal Mexican A.C. and Donataria, funding for helping the children comes from donations raised through their own efforts.

Taiyari has volunteers that assist the family of a patient, helping them through the often traumatic process of dealing with their child's problems. They know they are not alone and that there is someone they can talk to throughout the procedure. Taiyari also provides food for the parents.

If you want to help TAIYARI and other kids like me. Contact Diana Ayala at diana.ayala@taiyari.org



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The Royal Canadian Legion (18-182) Branch #1 Chapala



Upcoming Events

January 12: Ladies' Luncheon
January 14: Military Ball
January 18: Business Meeting
February 9: Ladies' Luncheon
February 15: Valentine Dinner/Dance
and Honors & Awards Presentations

In addition to special events, the Royal Canadian Legion hosts a weekly games afternoon. We invite everyone to join us on Friday afternoons at 1:30 pm at BAR TOMAS, located at the north end of Chapala's Soccer Stadium. Come out for a game of darts, Mexican Train, euchre, cribbage or any board game that you would like to bring - We'd love to meet you!

Did you know?

...that the only Branch of The Royal Canadian Legion in Mexico is right here at Lakeside?

Lake Chapala Branch #1 (18-182) of the Royal Canadian Legion was granted its Charter in December 2011. The Charter was officially presented at a ceremony at the Vista del Lago Country Club on November 29, 2012. We were given approval to call ourselves Branch #1 (18-182)

... it is not necessary to have a military connection in order to be a member ?

The RCL is a veterans community based organization which any Canadian citizen, Commonwealth subject or citizen of an allied country can join.



Remembrance Day 2016



Connecting with the Canadian Community in Lake Chapala in Jalisco, Mr. Stéphane Charbonneau (Consul and Senior Trade Commissioner in Guadalajara) and Lieutenant-Colonel Loïc Roy (Deputy Canadian Defence Attaché in Mexico) attended the Remembrance Day ceremony hosted by the Royal Canadian Legion (Lake Chapala Branch) and the 904th Wing of the Royal Canadian Air Force Association.



Join your Legion on FaceBook.
Find more pictures from Nov 11th and other events.
www.facebook.com/groups/LakeChapalaLegion/

Lake Chapala Legion




A Letter from our Legion President

As we begin another new year, we should renew our efforts and spirit to build on what has been a good time of growth and improvement. Reflecting on the year past, we have attracted new people who have come on board and are contributing new ideas and excitement, and in the future we hope to build on this growth. The opportunity to create a Legion that you enjoy visiting is a direct result of the people involved. If members don't attend General meetings then we are left with the ideas of limited people to contribute, reducing access to a broad spectrum of advice and suggestions, as well as additional knowledge of problem areas and appropriate solutions.

We would love to have a facility like the American Legion and with membership growth and good fortune we may find a comparable location, but until then we have to try every day to improve on what we have and get creative.

This year we had 3 Major events: Canada Day, with assistance from RCAF Association Wing and Canadian Club was a great event. The next was Remembrance Day with the Wing, another event that is steadily growing; And lastly we look forward to hosting the Zone Conference at the end of Sept with the rest of our Branches from San Diego, LA and San Francisco. With our one member from Arizona this promises to be a grand event for us to host.

A final item that is coming up is the Military Ball on 14 January at Real Chapala. This function is for military members of all countries and branches of service, and as a formal occasion, is a chance to connect with our nation's military along with Canadian Embassy staff, Mexican Air Force, plus England, Canada, American, Swiss, and Belgian forces. This promises to be a great year for our Branch and I hope everyone has a happy and prosperous New Year.

John Kelly

President

Royal Canadian Legion Br 182

Branch Officers

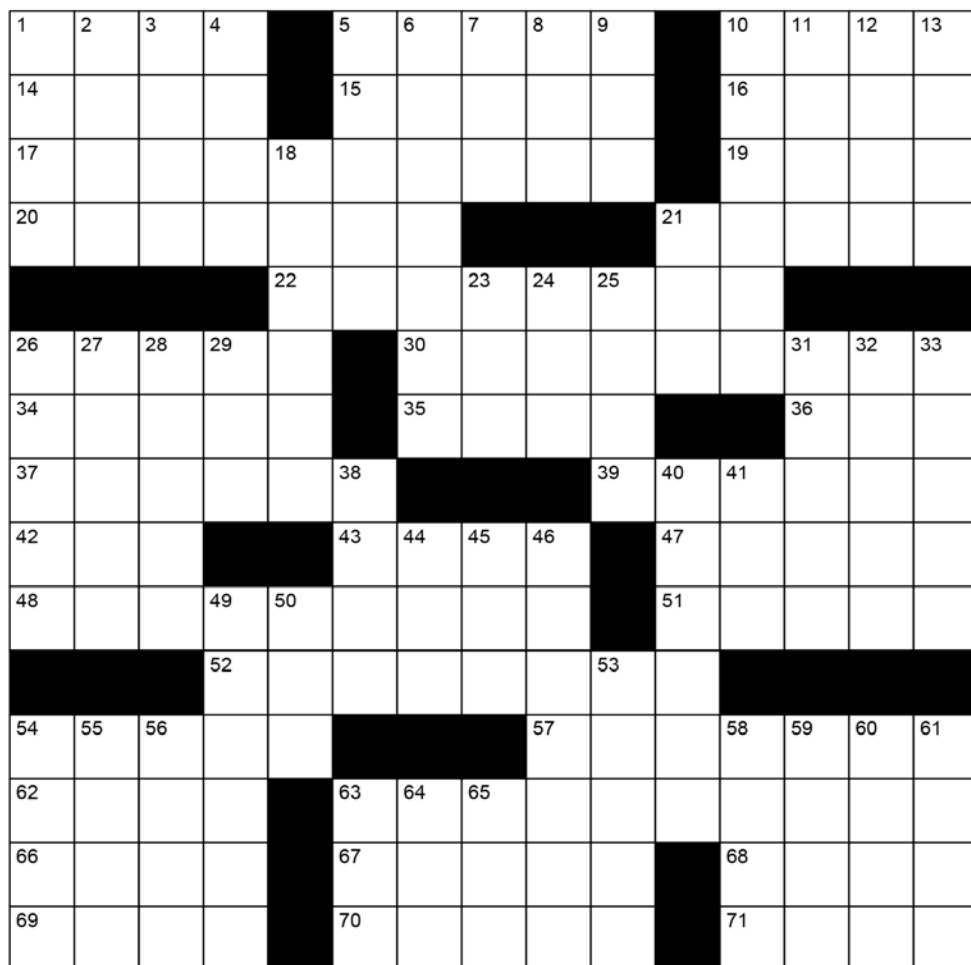
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Membership	Cyndi Bosch
Youth Auxilary & Education	Cyndi Bosch
Sports Chair	Larry Woolley
Public Relations	Lynn Bishop

For information regarding the Chapala Legion membership, or events, please contact our Secretary
Cyndi: rlchapala@gmail.com or (376) 765-3884

Crossword



Across

1. Avoiding the risk that
5. Dickens's "The Mystery of Edwin ____"
10. Displace
14. "Well, Did You ____!" (Cole Porter song)
15. Freedom, in Swahili
16. ____ out (barely manages)
17. Spiel at a used car lot
19. Prefix with pad
20. Charlie Sheen's real last name
21. Searches, with "about"
22. Lead actor on "Married With Children"
26. Ibuprofen choice
30. Preserves
34. Period of work
35. City west of Tulsa
36. Plant chewed in Arabia
37. Fez feature
39. Knockout
42. Barely earn, with "out"
43. Just ____ (very little)

47. "The Tempest" sprite
48. Leaf chicory
51. Raison follower
52. Get too big
54. 'Girls Just Want to Have Fun' singer Lauper
57. South American river in an Enya song title
62. Two, to a Teuton
63. Chews out
66. Open up ____ of worms
67. "... 'cause ____ wanderer, yeah the wanderer..." (lyric)
68. "____ Street Blues"
69. Abusive attack
70. Record material
71. On the subject of

Down

1. ____ majeste (high treason)
2. Gabor and Perón
3. NaCl
4. Biblical pronoun
5. Hornswoggled
6. Underground stem
7. Chic no more
8. Mythical monster
9. "I am such a dope!"
10. Sake
11. Strummed strings
12. Disappear, like snow
13. Trident-shaped letters
18. Slim and trim
21. 151, to Cato
23. Sister or mother
24. Beatles label
25. Online resource for movie buffs
26. Daisy or sunflower
27. Bangladesh capital
28. Got a grip?
29. Question words
31. Resigner's remark
32. Meat-____ (non-vegetarian)
33. Flair
38. Valentine decoration
40. English king between Eadred and Edgar (955-959 AD)
41. "We ____ the Champions"
44. Wed. follower (var.)
45. Insurance giant
46. Ms. Dandridge
49. Medicine-cabinet item
50. One fifth of DXXX
53. Cantilevered bay window
54. Ivan the Terrible, for one
55. Girls' rec. center
56. Tide of minimum range
58. Okinawa metropolis
59. Big name in elevators
60. Scot or Breton, e.g.
61. Capital NNW of Copenhagen
63. 104, in old Rome
64. "____ my brother's keeper?"
65. Amtrak stop (abbr.)



Activities Corner

(Schedule is subject to change)

JANUARY

- 1 Sunday New Year's Day: National Holiday (kitchen closed bar open at 12 p.m.)
- 3 Tuesday Auxiliary Meetings: .
- 5 Thursday Constitution Day: Kitchen closed bar opens at 12 pm
- 7 Saturday **Post-Holiday Bazaar** - see ad on Page 12
- 10 Tuesday Legion Meetings: E-board 12 p.m. – General 1 p.m.
- 11 Wednesday Consulate Visit: 9:30 to 10:30 a.m.
- 14 Saturday Military Ball: 5:30 p.m., dinner at 7 p.m. Real de Chapala Hotel, formal attire. \$350 pesos
- 25 Wednesday FMC meeting: 10:30 a.m.
- 26 Thursday **Annual No-Rules Auxiliary Chili Contest** - see ad on Page 30
- 31 Tuesday FMC meeting: 10:30 a.m.

FEBRUARY

- 1 Wednesday U.S. Consulate Visit: 9:30 to 10:30 a.m.
- 4 Saturday **1st Saturday Bazaar** - see ad on page 12
- 5 Sunday **Super Bowl**: (bring botanas) - see ad on Page 4
- 6 Monday Constitution Day: Kitchen closed bar opens at 12 p.m.
- 7 Tuesday Auxiliary Meetings: E-board 10:30 a.m.; General, 12:30 p.m.
- 14 Tuesday Legion Meetings: E-board 10:30 am – General 12:30 pm
- 14 Tuesday **Romantic Interlude with La Rondalla** - see ad in Centerfold
- 28 Tuesday FMC: 10:30 a.m.

Weekly Activities

Happy Hour Bar opens at noon daily. Happy Hour is from 3 to 6 p.m.

There is NO Happy Hour during events

Wednesday, Bridge 1-5 p.m.

Friday - AA meeting 10 a.m.

Saturday - Kitchen closes at noon. Fish Fry, 3 to 6 p.m.

Sunday - Kitchen closed. Grilled hamburgers & hotdogs, 12 to 3 p.m.



Other Information

- **The Post Commander is available at the Legion on Tuesdays & the Auxiliary President on Thursdays.**
- **Monday to Friday** - Duty Officer, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- If you do not have a copy of your **DD214** on file with the Legion, please turn one in to the Post adjutant or the duty officer.
- The Legion has a **library** that loans out books to our members.
- **WIFI** is available at the Legion

**Contact Post Adjutant Vince Britton, 331-358-8944, vincebritton12@gmail.com
if you have information to add to the Activities Corner.**

There will be no activity at the Legion that has not been authorized by Vince.

Mexico is Fertile Ground for Entrepreneurs

by Robert Nelson

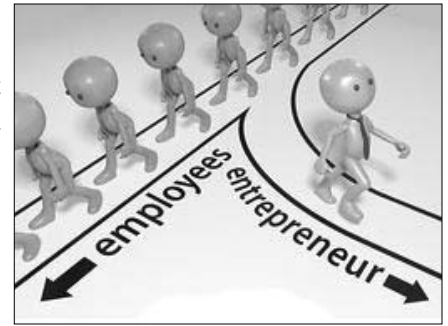
When we did market research on Americans who wanted to be expats a few years ago, we discovered that about 40% said they were interested in starting their own business. We also found that Mexico is fertile ground for entrepreneurs.

In our new article "Expat Entrepreneurs in Mexico: The Pearl of Lake Chapala" we follow the entrepreneurial life of Diane Pearl. She's an artist who was born and raised in Connecticut, lived in San Francisco, New York City, Tacoma, Washington and Santa Fe, and then found herself on the northwestern shore of Lake Chapala at the ripe age of 51.

Having had successful art galleries in New York and the Tacoma-area, she plunged right in and started her own art gallery. "I didn't have much money at the time, so I put together nine other people to form a cooperative," Diane told us. "The cooperative only lasted about a year before I started my own gallery, Diane Pearl Colecciones in 2003."

She has owned her gallery for about 13 years now and sells a wide range of art, including jewelry, arts and crafts and sculpture that sell for as little as \$10 pesos to as much as \$50,000 pesos.


"When I first opened, it was a cooperative, so we sold just what the people who lived there made," she said. "Since then I have expanded our offering substantially to include Mexican antiques, carved icons, straw paintings from Uruapan and, of course, lots of arts and crafts from Jalisco and other areas within Mexico."



You can see many of her artworks at dianepearl.com. She also recently began a new creative project called Creatively Mindful Art, which invites artists to become members of a Creatively Mindful Artists community, where they can upload and share their colored drawings, useful tips, experiences and comments.

She keeps her operating expenses low to remain in the black. She operates her business as a sole proprietor, her business license costs just \$180 pesos (less than US\$10 with today's exchange rate) annually and the rent for her space is just \$630 USD a month.

See Diane's ad in our color centerfold.



Lic. Spencer McMullen

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Spencer Richard McMullen is an Attorney and authorized state translator in the Guadalajara and Lake Chapala area of Mexico with a specialty degree in Civil and Business Procedure from the Universidad Panamericana as well as 6 postgraduate degrees. Attorney McMullen is certified by the National Corporate Bar Association (ANADE) and a member of the Mexican Bar Association.

The legal team consists of six Attorneys, 2 official court translators and a dedicated support staff, and all are bi-lingual. Let Spencer's Office handle your interactions with Mexican and United States Government offices.

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January 2017 Horoscope

Aries March 21-April 19

You are ready to hit the ground running. Nobody is quite as quick as you are, when you know what interests you and how to stay motivated. Pay close attention to your visions on January 5, 6 and 7. Do you see yourself as a project manager? A star on Broadway? A massage therapist? Chances are, you can become just that, with a little effort. You discover whole new worlds on the 10th, 11th and 12th, and you love it. You could well discover a couple of important life-enhancing ideas, too. And you might well get a big kiss from someone you really, really like!

Taurus April 20-May 20

There are days when you should probably put all your chips on your lucky number and let the dice roll. But those are few and far between, and the rest of the time, you need to do the financially responsible thing. The 1st and 2nd are particularly key: after all, what you do now sets the tone for the whole year to come. So be financially responsible. You'll notice a huge decrease in your stress levels accompanies the increase in your savings account nest egg. Don't get involved in a power struggle that doesn't involve you on the 19th and 20th. Get to the gym no matter how much you don't feel like it on the 25th. You'll feel great afterwards.

Gemini May 21-June 20

Your partner (in business, love or tennis) is definitely worth paying attention to on the 1st and 2nd. Not only do you like them and

care about them, but they have a couple of interesting tips to share with you! You sure struck gold in this department. Is it time to focus on your brain waves on the 5th, 6th and 7th? Whether you take up Sudoku or start attending community college night courses to learn a new language, challenge your gray matter and you'll feel fab. By the 12th, you need to check in with your buddies! Make dinner or plan drinks. You need to socialize, big time.

Cancer June 21-July 22

Start things out by putting one very special person front and center. Who? Why, you! Of course. Yep, on the 1st and 2nd of January 2017, make sure you are getting everything you need: plenty of rest, plenty of relaxation, plenty of exercise, plenty of breakfast. If you can manage, go out and do something extra special for yourself, too: Massage is always nice, or a long walk in the winter wonderland, or a special hot cocoa at the new hot cocoa place that just opened. (If nothing's open yet, don't worry: You have all year to pamper yourself!).

Leo July 23-August 22

You look to be starting out 2017 with a new lease on life — and in particular, love. What could be better? Not much, so be sure to treasure these romantic moments to the utmost. The forecast is that you and a colleague could have a very intense difference of opinion on the 5th and 6th. How will you resolve this? The answer might not be entirely clear before you give the problem your full and undivided attention.

(Continued on Page 35)

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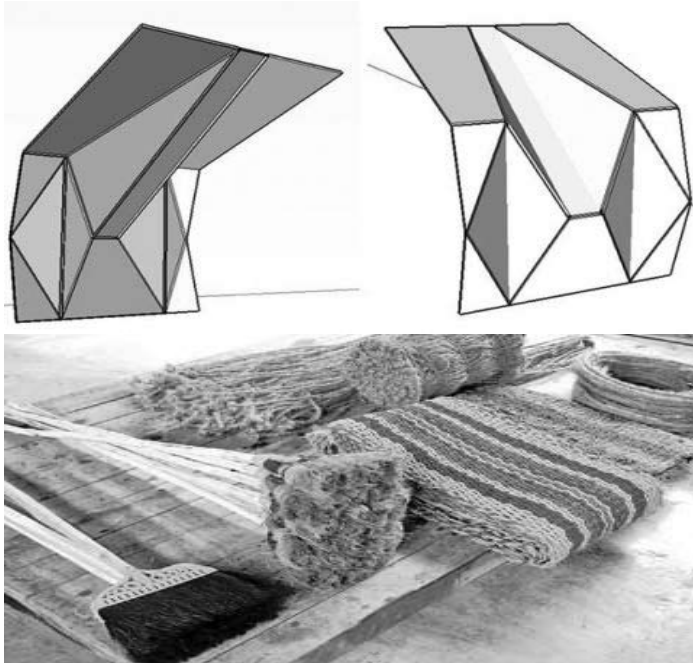
331-852-4860

Coconuts Considered as Option for Roofing

From *copra* to *piña coladas*, the coconut has a wide range of uses. Now it is making an appearance as a possible roofing material.

A team of students and professors at the Institute of Technology of Colima (Itec) has developed an alternative roofing product made from the husk of the coconut.

During a first stage, the team replaced the commonly used fiberglass with coconut fiber, mixing it with a polyester resin to meld all the elements. After the product didn't provide the expected results, the team decided instead to try coir, the fiber in the coconut's outer husk.



Professor José Ricardo Moreno Peña explained that a key motivator in their research was creating a sustainable product. The coconut fiber is usually discarded as trash or burned, and is readily available throughout the state.

Early tests have shown that the uniquely-shaped sheets of roofing are strong, but Moreno said more testing will determine their structural tolerance to determine if it can be used for building. The product is also something that people can make themselves.

“Our purpose is to offer safe self-assembly alternatives for people who with their own work will be able to produce this sheet roofing. Our product will provide a shelter from the elements from the get-go, but we plan in future design stages to add a thermal resistance element,” said Moreno. Once the technical feasibility and resilience of the sheets is

satisfactorily tested, the team will focus on further improving the product.

Architecture and design student Joel Vargas Montes said the sheets are different from any others currently available on the market. He said they are composed of pyramid-like structures that distribute the load throughout the sheet.



Annual Auxiliary No-Rules Chili Contest

January 26 \$100 pesos
\$50 pesos for entrants

2 p.m. Social Hour
3 p.m. Dinner
Chili
Cornbread
Dessert

 **First Place Prize – Steak Social Lunch at the Legion**

To Enter:
Email chapalasharon@yahoo.com or sign up at the Legion.
Entries must be in by 2 p.m. on the day of the contest
(if possible in a crock pot or something similar)

American Legion Post #7, Morelos #114, Chapala

Sudoku Solution

2	7	5	1	3	6	8	4	9
1	8	3	9	4	5	2	6	7
9	4	6	7	2	8	1	5	3
4	5	1	6	7	9	3	2	8
8	6	7	2	1	3	5	9	4
3	9	2	8	5	4	7	1	6
7	3	9	5	6	2	4	8	1
5	1	8	4	9	7	6	3	2
6	2	4	3	8	1	9	7	5

"La Taverna" dei Quattro Mori



By Loves To-Eat

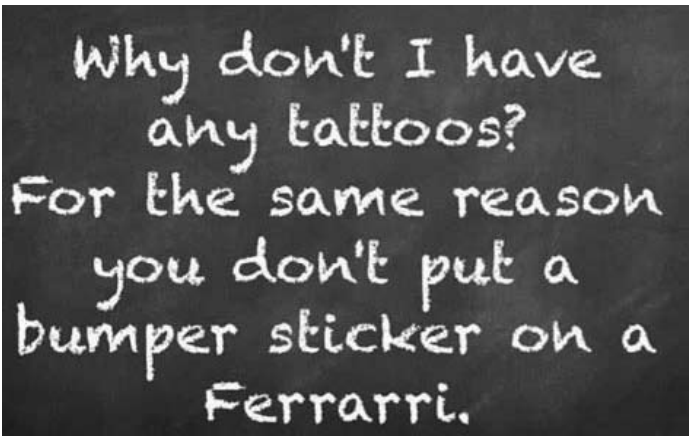
I had visitors for two weeks from Austin, Texas for Feria Maestros del Arte in November. We hit just about every restaurant between Chapala and Ajijic. But, the only one we visited twice was La Taverna.

I hadn't even thought of patronizing them since they moved from their old location just west of Ajijic to across the street from Super Lake. In the new location, there is more room with patio seating too — also excellent service.

My friend Don said, "The Lasagne Carne (spelled the way it is in the menu) was superb," and had it both times we stopped there for dinner. "Polly commented, "Their lamb's liver was to die for and their salads fresh and crispy." I was very pleased with the pasta I ordered as well.

The chef is from Livorno, Italy and offers an extensive menu — Brushetta, Insalates (salads), Fettuccine, Linguine, Pappardelle (boar or venison), Spaghetti, Tagliatelle, Gnocchi, Lasagne, Ravioli, chicken, meal and seafood dishes and Pizza. They also offer desserts.

The restaurant is rated 4-stars in Trip Advisor and the rating is well deserved. Well, I've overlooked La Taverna before, but not in the future. I hope your experience is as palatable as ours was. Buon appetite!



Crossword Puzzle Solution

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13				
L	E	S	T		D	R	O	O	D		B	U	M	P				
14	E	V	A	H		15	U	H	U	R	U		16	E	K	E	S	
17	S	A	L	E	18	S	P	I	T	C	H		19	H	E	L	I	
20	E	S	T	E	V	E	Z					21	C	A	S	T	S	
					22	E	D	O	N	E	I	L	L					
26	A	D	V	I	L		30	M	U	M	M	I	F	I	E	S		
34	S	H	I	F	T		35	E	N	I	D			36	Q	A	T	
37	T	A	S	S	E	L					39	B	E	A	U	T	Y	
42	E	K	E			43	A	T	A	D		47	A	R	I	E	L	
48	R	A	D	I	C	C	H	I	O			51	D	E	T	R	E	
					52	O	V	E	R	G	R	O	W					
54	C	Y	N	D	I					57	O	R	I	N	O	C	O	
62	Z	W	E	I		63	C	A	S	T	I	G	A	T	E	S		
66	A	C	A	N		67	I	M	T	H	E			68	H	I	L	L
69	R	A	P	E		70	V	I	N	Y	L			71	A	S	T	O

I want it all -
and I would like it
delivered.

- Bette Midler



Holiday Cocktails & Drinks

Rompo

Rompo is an eggnog-like combination of milk, egg, spice, and liquor, served during the holidays in Mexico, with some variations in name and ingredients popping up across Latin America.

The first *rompo* was brewed by nuns in the Santa Clara convent in Puebla, Mexico in the 17th century, a derivation of Spanish *ponche de huevo*. At the time, the Catholic Church was prominent in government and society, and convents often hosted visiting officials and religious dignitaries. As such, fine cuisine was developed in the cloisters with the Clarists garnering much acclaim for their confections and sweets.

Legend has it that one Sister Eduviges requested that the nuns be allowed to enjoy the *rompo* they had previously only been able to make. They say that even though the recipe is known to contain milk, egg yolks, spices, sugar, and *aguardiente* or rum and occasional additions like ground almonds or pine nuts, there is one secret ingredient that remains with Eduviges.

Rompo is served chilled, often over ice, but it can also be served warm — very nice this way when the cold weather sets in. Either way, *rompo* is rich and velvety, fragrant, and certainly full of cheer.

Ingredients:

2/3 cup blanched almonds
1 1/2 cups plus 2 tablespoons sugar
6 cups milk
2 cinnamon sticks
Rind of 1 lemon (see notes)
1 teaspoon pure vanilla extract
1/4 teaspoon baking soda
8 large egg yolks
1/2 to 1 cup aged rum or *aguardiente* (see notes)

Directions:



1. Pulse almonds with 2 tablespoons sugar until ground to a fine paste.
2. Bring milk, cinnamon sticks, lemon rind, vanilla, and baking soda to boil over medium-high heat in large heavy-bottomed saucepan. Reduce heat to medium-low and simmer for 15 to 20 minutes. Set aside.
3. In large bowl, whisk egg yolks, remaining 1 1/2 cups sugar, and almonds until thick and pale. Remove and discard cinnamon stick and lemon rind from milk. Constantly whisking, slowly add the milk to the yolk mixture.
4. Return mixture to pan and cook over low heat, stirring and scraping the bottom and sides of the pan constantly until the mixture thickens enough to coat the back of a spoon, 5 to 7 minutes. Set aside to cool completely, about 2 hours (see notes).
5. Stir in rum or *aguardiente* and serve.

Notes: Remove the peel of the lemon with a peeler, making sure to avoid the pith. You can refrigerate the *rompo* for up to 1 month in sterilized glass bottles. Add rum or *aguardiente* to taste — and tolerance!

Salty Chihuahua

1 wedge lime
Coarse salt
Ice
1 (1.5 fluid ounce) jigger *tequila*
5 fluid ounces lemonade



Wet the rim of an old fashioned glass with lime juice, then dip in salt. Fill glass with ice. Pour in *tequila* and lemonade. Squeeze and drop in the lime wedge. Stir.

Beer Margaritas

(Makes 6 servings)
1 (12 fluid ounce) can frozen limeade concentrate
12 fluid ounces *tequila*
12 fluid ounces water
12 fluid ounces beer
ice
1 lime, cut into wedges

Pour limeade, *tequila*, water, and beer into a large pitcher. Stir until well-blended, and limeade has melted. Add plenty of ice, and garnish with lime wedges.

Safe Sex Education In Local Schools

By Sydney Gay

A shout of thanks to retired veterans in Chapala and Ajijic who help "Ajijic Cares" bring safe-sex education to young Mexicans. The problem of HIV and AIDS has been growing in the heterosexual population; most vulnerable are women and children.

The goal to bring safe-sex information into local schools and community centers is especially important in a village where twelve-year old girls become pregnant, where too many Mexican families suffer from a preventable tragic disease.

Volunteers have seen the reality of the young orphaned by parents who die of AIDS. As you remember there was a time none of us has ever heard of AIDS. Today, we have knowledge to prevent it, but safe sex information has not been available in Chapala and Ajijic.

Clearly, veterans of war are not the only ones to recognize how big this problem is, The World Health Organization reports 80% of Mexican men are not educated about behavior that causes HIV and AIDS. Because of this, women

and abused children are at extreme high risk — approximately 4,000 Mexican children age 14 and younger have HIV/AIDS. Gallup polls state 36 million people worldwide are living with HIV/AIDS today; 22 million have already died.

Keep in mind that our commitment to safe-sex education in Ajijic and Chapala has never been done before, but this year, thanks to volunteer involvement 50 students a month will be reached. "Ajijic Cares" has already committed \$100,000 pesos to Lakeside — on December 1, \$25,000 pesos were deposited as the first of four installments.

Mark Rome will be producing this unique comedy benefit at the Auditorium with Ajijic's own Sydney Gay and the outrageous Miss Immaculate Conception, "Female Delusionist". Miss Conceptions show for Ajijic Cares is January 21 at 6 p.m.. — "That's Entertainment" — **See ad in Centerfold.**

Since the 1970s, these two artists have donated their time to sex education and HIV-AIDS protection. Sydney began her work at Saint Peter's Church in New York; Miss Conception provides safe housing and care benefits in Canada — both have wonder-filled stories to tell. Tickets will be available at Diane Pearls and through Mark Rome.



Roll Call

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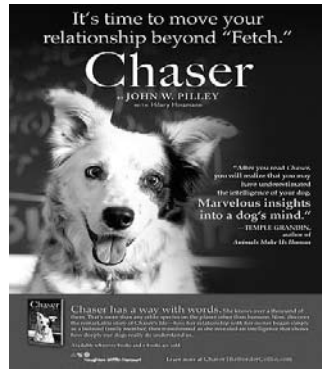
Carretera Ajijic #7A
West of Colón, 3 doors from Juárez

Gracie

If you come to the Legion for an early breakfast, you have probably met Gracie, a border collie service dog who is there most mornings escorting her human. She has taken on the role of official greeter while she's there.



You may have heard that border collies are the smartest known breed of dog. One border collie (Chaser) has even been making the rounds of the morning talk shows, demonstrating her understanding of over 1000 words. She is also able to understand simple sentences. There's a book about her and she even has her own website www.chaserthebordercollie.com.



Border collie's were developed as a breed in Scotland, where they are expected to carry out complex farm jobs. They can separate out a mixed herd of sheep and goats, they will hold a group of animals in position for hours, and they guard against marauding predators. They have also become top competitors in dog agility shows.



In recent years, they have also been pressed into as service animals because of their intelligence and loyalty. They are able to learn a variety of complex tasks, even getting a soda or beer from the fridge — and being able to tell the difference! They seem to “sleep with one eye open”, always on duty until released.

Border collies can live a long life, often well over 15 years. But part of the “package” is that they don't get over their puppy energy until age eight or ten. They are happiest when with their human and when doing a job, even if that job is playing fetch. Border collies definitely are not for everyone. But for their fans, no other breed comes close.

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(Continued from Page 29: Horoscope)

Virgo August 23-September 22

This is a month for finding and living from your emotional comfort zone and for getting your home base in order. Much is going on in the home these days. Looks like there is construction happening – remodelling. This could be happening in the home of another family member as well. Passions run high at home and it will take much work and effort to stay tranquil and calm. Some dirty laundry is surfacing now. Love, though unstable, is very good and active this month. Love is more spiritual and idealistic, and singles are likely to engage in spiritually, or artistically-orientated romances. But people involved in your health are also alluring. Health is good and you can enhance it further by paying more attention to your ankles, feet, heart, lungs, arms, shoulders and intestines.

Libra September 23-October 22

You are in an extraordinarily communicative kind of space on the 1st and 2nd. Has something that's been gnawing at you suddenly become clear? Or do you just have that irresistible urge to connect? Whatever the answer, go with it. Speak out whatever is in your heart. Your friends and loved ones will be happy to know just what it is that you're thinking. And they'll feel privileged you chose to share it with them! You might not be seeing huge progress in whatever area of your life you had hoped would progress. On the other hand, you are really enjoying yourself. And that's way more important! Let your oh-so-active brain do its thing when it comes to a difficult problem on the 15th and 16th. You'll tackle it! If you feel overwhelmed by the daily grind on the 21st and 22nd, then by all means take a time-out! Rest and recuperate.

Scorpio October 23-November 21

Trust your gut on the 1st. If you have a hunch you know just what you need this year, you should resolve right here and right now to go out and get it. This is a month to listen to yourself, trust what you know and let your deepest impulses be your guiding light. If that means redecorating (literally, spiritually or emotionally) on the 5th, 6th and 7th, then so be it. Throw out that old stuff that's just cluttering things up. Make space. Create a nurturing and peaceful environment. You'll have to deal with some relationship issues head-on on the 13th and 14th. Don't beat around the bush any longer. You know what you need, and you need to get it, or move on.

Sagittarius November 22-December 21

This year starts out stellarly for you. Starting the 1st and 2nd, you are surrounded by friends and loved ones. You feel free to explore yet confident that you've taken the right path up to now. You're happy with the choices you've made and you're excited about the projects ahead of you. Celebrate! This is a pretty special time. By January 7th, communication is the name of the game, and it's a game you're playing to win! Win you will on the 11th and 12th, when you're having such a lovely time, you have to pinch yourself to realize it's not all a dream. Breathe in the fresh, crisp air on a long outdoor jaunt, and if it comes down to a game of pick-up, your team is going to come out on top.

Capricorn December 22-January 19

You have ideas on the 1st. Great ideas. What's even more great

and more amazing is the speed and ease with which these ideas and plans will come to fruition this month (and this year). It's an amazing time, no question, and you shouldn't hesitate to dream big. By the 5th, 6th and 7th, you might want to consider ways in which you could change (or at least tailor) your style in order to get more done. Could you approach these things differently? More effectively? More gently? More aggressively? Romance, laughter, fun and games. Sharing resources might not seem like a great thing for you on the 19th and 20th. But it could turn out to be a boon, particularly if they have some knowledge base or skill set you can really benefit from.

Aquarius January 20-February 18

The 1st and 2nd are days of exploration and discovery for you. You will meet lots of interesting people and see an array of new possibilities opening up on the horizon. You feel pretty good about it all, too. It's special to encounter so many like-minded folks all at once, and will positively impact your life all year. Some real excitement is in store for you on 5th, 6th and 7th. Love, career success, lucky coincidences — all this and more is in the cards. Be sure to get to the gym, too. A healthy, relaxed, well-functioning body will help you take advantage of all the greatness life has to offer right now.

Pisces February 19-March 20

You. An authority figure. Two opinions, two points of view. This might sound like a problem, but it doesn't have to be, particularly not on the 1st and 2nd, when work isn't the primary thing on your mind. Nope, enjoy this time with friends and family, and be sure to particularly enjoy the extremely good luck that's coming your way this month. A stroke of luck brightens your life on the 8th and 9th. Add a splash of romance and you've got a recipe for a great couple of days! Pisces, even more romance keeps you occupied on the 13th and 14th. By the 19th and 20th, it's that time again: you need to check in with your health routine and see if you are really doing everything you can to stay in tip-top shape.

Donkey Smiles From Ear To Ear After Being Rescued From Flood In Ireland



Restaurant Hours:

Monday-Friday: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. full menu including breakfast

Saturday: 9 am to 12 p.m.

Monday-Friday: 3 to 5 p.m. limited menu, sandwiches, soups & salads

Sunday: Closed

BREAKFAST *(Served all day)*

Prices are in Mexican pesos

Your choice of bacon, sausage, hash browns, home fries, grits or *frijoles*, toast, biscuit, *tortilla* (corn or flour), one hot cake or fruit.

Two (2) eggs	\$54	Huevos Rancheros	\$48
2 Egg omelette	\$54	<i>w/meat</i>	\$54
3 Egg omelette	\$60	Steak & eggs	\$84
Chilaquiles w/beans	\$48	Chicken fried steak & eggs	\$60
<i>w/egg</i>	\$54	McLegion sandwich	\$45
Enchiladas Suizas (6)	\$60	McLegion sandwich w/cheese	\$48

Build your own Omelette with your choice of one meat (bacon, ham, or sausage) plus cheese
(American, cheddar or gouda), onion, spinach, bell pepper, and mushrooms.

A LA CARTE

Bowl of gravy	\$12	French toast	\$36
One egg	\$18	<i>w/meat</i>	\$54
One hotcake	\$18	Two (2) biscuits & sausage gravy	\$42
Toast or biscuit	\$18	$\frac{1}{2}$ order	\$30
Hashbrowns, home fries, grits	\$18	Ground beef gravy on toast	\$30
Bacon or sausage	\$24	$\frac{1}{2}$ order	\$18
Slice of ham	\$30	Breakfast <i>burritos</i> with <i>frijoles</i>	\$36
Oatmeal & toast	\$30	<i>w/meat</i>	\$54
Croissant	\$40	Two (2) <i>quesadillas</i>	\$24
Fruit & yogurt	\$60	<i>w/meat</i>	\$36

LUNCH & AFTERNOON FARE (served after 12 noon)

Jumbo Croissant Sandwiches \$60

Your choice of tuna, chicken, egg salad, ham and cheese, with or without lettuce & tomato or vegetarian with avocado, sprouts & cheese.

Served with potato chips, vegetable sticks or with French fries add \$20

TOASTED SANDWICHES

Club	\$60
Bacon lettuce & tomato	\$48
Grilled cheese	\$42
Grilled ham & cheese	\$48

FROM THE GRILL

Hamburger	\$48
Cheeseburger	\$54
Bacon cheeseburger	\$60
Grilled steak sandwich	\$90
<i>w/fried onions, mushrooms & cheese</i>	\$96
Grilled chicken sandwich	\$48
<i>w/cheese or bacon</i>	\$60
Veggie burger	\$48
Jumbo hot dog	\$48
<i>w/cheese, chili or sauerkraut</i>	\$54
Fish sandwich	\$48

ENTREES

Ground beef steak w/onions & gravy	\$72
Chicken fried steak w/onions & gravy	\$72
<i>Served w/your choice: small baked potato, mashed potatoes, or</i>	
<i>French fries & choice of steamed veggies or garden salad & bread.</i>	

BEVERAGES

Coffee	\$15
Milk or Tea	\$18
Juice large	\$24
Juice small	\$18
Hot chocolate	\$24

Ask the Waiter About Our HOME MADE DESSERTS

and frozen meals to go for \$60 pesos

All prices include mandatory IVA

The American Legion Post #7 thanks you for dining with us

SANDWICHES

Tuna	\$48
Chicken	\$48
$\frac{1}{2}$ Sandwich & cup of soup	\$48
$\frac{1}{2}$ Sandwich with green salad	\$48
Egg salad	\$48
Ham & cheese	\$48

SOUP OF THE DAY & SANDWICHES

Bowl of soup w/crackers	\$36
Cup of soup w/crackers	\$24
Chef salad	\$72
Green salad w/grilled chicken	\$72
Green salad w/chicken & cheese	\$78

SIDES

Mashed potatoes	\$18
Baked potato	\$30
French fries	\$30
Potato salad (when available)	\$24

PASTA

Pasta w/marinara sauce	\$60
Spaghetti w/meatballs or sausage	\$84
Chicken parmesan	\$90

Pasta is served with salad or steamed vegetables & garlic bread.

WEEKLY SPECIALS

MONDAY: *Chili relleno & cheese enchilada or Crispy beef taco*
w/frijoles & rice

TUESDAY: Filet mignon

WEDNESDAY: Lasagna (meat or vegetable)

THURSDAY: Chicken Cordon Bleu

FRIDAY: Fish Veracruz (breaded or garlic)

SATURDAY: Fish fry - 3 to 6 p.m.

SUNDAY: Grilled hamburgers & hot dogs - 12 to 3 p.m.



Mi Casita

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Excellent Rental Opportunity

Suites of the Lake

Located in Chapala on Av. Morelos
(one block from The American Legion)



Two Beautiful New Condos:

#1 US \$500 monthly

One bedroom (kingsize bed)
or 2 single beds

Kitchen, Living Room, Terrace
Air Conditioner, Electric gate
Parking for one car

Walking distance to downtown
In front of a lovely 60K sq. meter park

#2 US \$600 monthly

Two bedrooms (1 king size & 1 two single beds)

Kitchen, Living Room, Terrace
Air Conditioner, Electric gate
Parking for one car

Walking distance to downtown
In front of a lovely 60K sq. meter park

Each unit includes:

Microwave oven, Stove, Refrigerator, Toaster
Luxury mattresses, pillows & furnishings
48" TV

Electric garage door, High ceilings
Rent includes: gas, water, TV and electric

Contact information: Oscar Lamadriid Sahagun
Cellphone: 333-496-4868

